of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, The Technical Suport Group is headed by Shri S.R. Sankaran, retired Secretary (Rural Development), Government of India and consists of experts from various fields, such as environment, forests, wildlife, anthropology, tribal welfare, legal, representatives of certain States and concerned Central Ministries/Departments. The Group has been asked to prepare the draft rules within a period of 3 months from the date of constitution of the Group.

(c) and (d): During the 10th Five Year Plan, Rs. 450 crore was allocated to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs for the development of forest villages under Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub Plan (SCA to TSP). There are 2,474 forest villages/ habitations (reduced from the original 2,690) spread over 12 States (Reduced from the original 13 States). The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has approved proposals covering 2,179 forest villages in 10 States and also released Rs. 32276. 46 lakh as on date. Under the programme, infrastructure work relating to basic services and facilities *viz.* approach roads, healthcare, primary education, minor irrigation, rainwater harvesting, drinking water, sanitation, community halls, etc. and activities related to livelihood are taken up for implementation.

Schemes for welfare of tribals

2237. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the Central share of each scheme sponsored by Government for the welfare of tribals;

(b) whether Government have received any request from State Governments, where tribals predominantly live, to increase the Central share;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) and (d) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs provides assistance under various schemes/ programmes for the socio-economic development of Scheduled Tribes.

The percentage of Central share under each scheme of the Ministry is as under:

Sl.No.	Name of the Scheme	Central share (%)
1.	Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub Plan	100
2.	Grants under proviso to Article 275 (1) of the Constitution	100
3.	Scheme of Post Matric Scholarships, Book Bank and Upgradation of Merit of ST Students	100
4.	Scheme of Hostels for ST Girls and Boys	50
5.	Establishment of Ashram Schools in Tribal Areas	50
6.	Grant to Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs)	50
7.	Grant-in-Aid to NGOs for STs including Coaching & Allied Scheme and Award for exemplary service (a) Grant-in-Aid to NGOs (b) Coaching & Allied	90 100
8.	Vocational Training centres in Tribal Areas	100
9.	Educational Complexes in Low Literacy Pockets for development of women literacy in Tribal areas	100
10.	Development of Primitive Tribal Groups (PTSs)	100
11.	Grant-in-Aid to State Tribal Development Cooperative Corporations for Minor Forest Produce	100
12.	Support to National/State Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development (a) NSTFDC (b) STDCs	 100 49
13.	Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship for ST Students	100
14.	Exchange of visits by tribals	100

During the review meeting of State Secretaries in-charge of Tribal Development/Welfare held on 13 February 2007 and the Conference of State's Minister in-charge of Tribal Welfare/Development held on 14 February 2007 in New Delhi, some of the State Governments had requested for raising the Central share for implementing the schemes/ progremmes of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. The funding pattern under various schemes is decided by the Planning Commission.